



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5165

January Session, 2005

* _____ HB05165TRA _____ 032805 _____ *

AN ACT RESTRICTING TRAFFIC SIGNAL PREEMPTION DEVICES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2005*) (a) As used in this section,
2 "traffic signal preemption device" means a device capable of altering a
3 traffic control signal or the timing or phasing of a traffic control signal.

4 (b) No person shall use a traffic signal preemption device unless
5 such person, in furtherance of such person's duties, is responding to an
6 emergency and such person is a sworn law enforcement officer; a
7 firefighter; an employee of the federal or state government, a
8 municipal government, or fire district having control of traffic signals;
9 or the operator of a commercial ambulance who has obtained a permit
10 from the Department of Transportation to use such a device. No traffic
11 signal preemption device shall be in, or part of, a motor vehicle unless
12 (1) the motor vehicle is owned or controlled by the federal or state
13 government, a municipal government or such fire district, (2) such
14 device is in an ambulance owned or controlled by a commercial
15 ambulance service, which ambulance has obtained a permit from the
16 Department of Transportation to have such a device, or (3) such
17 vehicle is being used in the course of manufacturing, transporting,
18 installing, or maintaining such a device.

19 (c) No person shall possess a traffic signal preemption device unless
20 such person is permitted to use such a device under subsection (b) of

21 this section or is a manufacturer specializing in the manufacture of
22 such devices, a vendor authorized by a manufacturer specializing in
23 the manufacture of such devices or a repairer of such devices. No
24 person may be such a manufacturer, vendor or repairer of a traffic
25 signal preemption device unless such person has obtained a permit
26 from the Department of Transportation.

27 (d) No person shall sell or transfer possession of a traffic signal
28 preemption device unless (1) such person is a manufacturer
29 specializing in the manufacture of such devices, a vendor authorized
30 by a manufacturer specializing in the manufacture of such devices or a
31 repairer of such devices or is a person permitted to use such a device
32 under subsection (b) of this section, and (2) such sale or transfer of
33 possession is to a person permitted to use such a device under
34 subsection (b) of this section or to a vendor or repairer of such devices.

35 (e) The Department of Transportation shall adopt regulations, in
36 accordance with chapter 54 of the general statutes, to implement the
37 provisions of this section, including, but not limited to, standards for
38 issuing permits under this section.

39 (f) Each person required to obtain a permit under subsection (b) of
40 this section shall pay a fee to Department of Transportation in the
41 amount of twenty dollars each year for each such operator and each
42 such ambulance that obtains a permit. Each person required to obtain a
43 permit under subsection (c) of this section, shall pay a fee to the
44 Department of Transportation in the amount of one hundred dollars
45 each year.

46 (g) Any person who violates the provisions of subsection (b), (c) or
47 (d) of this section shall be fined not more than five thousand dollars or
48 imprisoned not more than ninety days, or both.

49 (h) Any person who violates the provisions of subsection (b) of this
50 section which violation results in a traffic accident shall be fined not
51 more than fifteen thousand dollars or imprisoned not more than five
52 years, or both.

53 (i) Any person who violates the provisions of subsection (b) of this
54 section which violation results in the serious impairment of a bodily
55 function of any person shall be fined not more than twenty thousand
56 dollars or imprisoned not more than ten years, or both.

57 (j) Any person who violates the provisions of subsection (b) of this
58 section which violation results in the death of another person shall be
59 fined not more than twenty-five thousand dollars or imprisoned not
60 more than fifteen years, or both.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>July 1, 2005</i>	New section
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TRA *Joint Favorable Subst.*